

determining whether a predetermined or preselected trigger symbol is present at a predetermined or preselected trigger location.

10. The gaming method of claim 1, further comprising initiating a bonus event if said triggering event is present.

11. The gaming method of claim 10, wherein said initiating said bonus event comprises initiating a bonus game.

12. The gaming method of claim 10, further comprising using symbols of said predetermined set in said bonus game.

13. The gaming method of claim 10, further comprising using symbols differing at least in part from said predetermined set in said bonus game.

14. The gaming method of claim 10, wherein said initiating said bonus event comprises increasing an award if one of said plurality of winning combinations of symbols is present in at least one selected payline.

15. The gaming method of claim 1, further comprising providing an award if at least one of said plurality of winning combinations of symbols is present in at least one selected payline.

16. The gaming method of claim 15, wherein said providing said award comprises providing at least one of money, monetary credit, tournament qualification points, or tournament points.

17. The gaming method of claim 15, further comprising, if said triggering event is present, permitting a player to initiate a bonus event in lieu of receiving said award.

18. The gaming method of claim 1, further comprising, if said triggering event is present and a player makes a wager, permitting the player to initiate a bonus event.

19. The gaming method of claim 1, wherein said determining whether one of said plurality of winning combinations of symbols is present comprises determining whether one of a plurality of winning combinations of symbols is present in at least one payline selected in response to placement of a wager thereon.

20. A gaming method, comprising:

randomly assigning symbols from a predetermined set to an array of image sites;

determining whether one of a plurality of winning combinations of symbols is present in at least one selected payline across said array;

determining whether a first triggering event is present in at least one selected payline across said array; and

determining whether a second triggering event is present at a trigger location of said array.

21. The gaming method of claim 20, wherein said randomly assigning symbols comprises randomly assigning cards from a deck of cards to said array of image sites.

22. The gaming method of claim 21, further comprising replacing at least one selected card with another undealt card from said deck.

23. The gaming method of claim 21, wherein said determining whether one of said plurality of winning combinations of symbols is present comprises determining whether at least one specific poker combination is present on at least one selected payline within said array.

24. The gaming method of claim 20, wherein said randomly assigning symbols comprises randomly assigning reel type slot machine symbols to said array.

25. The gaming method of claim 24, wherein said determining whether one of said plurality of winning combina-

tions of symbols is present comprises determining whether a predetermined number of symbols are the same on at least one selected payline across said array.

26. The gaming method of claim 20, wherein said determining whether said first triggering event is present comprises determining whether a predetermined or preselected trigger symbol is present in at least one selected payline.

27. The gaming method of claim 20, wherein said determining whether said first triggering event is present comprises determining whether a specific combination of symbols is present along at least one selected payline.

28. The gaming method of claim 20, further comprising initiating a bonus game if said first triggering event occurs.

29. The gaming method of claim 28, further comprising using symbols of said predetermined set in said bonus game.

30. The gaming method of claim 28, further comprising using symbols differing at least in part from said predetermined set in said bonus game.

31. The gaming method of claim 20, wherein said determining whether said second triggering event is present comprises determining whether a predetermined or preselected trigger symbol is present at a predetermined or preselected trigger location.

32. The gaming method of claim 31, further comprising initiating a bonus event if said second triggering event occurs.

33. The gaming method of claim 32, wherein said initiating said bonus event comprises increasing an award if one of said plurality of winning combinations of symbols is present in at least one selected payline.

34. The gaming method of claim 20, further comprising providing an award if at least one of said plurality of winning combinations of symbols is present in at least one selected payline.

35. The gaming method of claim 34, wherein said providing said award comprises providing at least one of money, monetary credit, tournament qualification points, or tournament points.

36. The gaming method of claim 34, further comprising, if said first triggering event occurs, permitting a player to initiate a bonus game in lieu of receiving said award.

37. The gaming method of claim 20, further comprising, if said triggering event is present and a player makes a wager, permitting the player to initiate a bonus game.

38. The gaming method of claim 20, wherein said determining whether one of said plurality of winning combinations of symbols is present comprises determining whether one of a plurality of winning combinations of symbols is present in at least one payline selected in response to placement of a wager thereon.

39. A gaming method, comprising:

randomly assigning symbols from a predetermined set for use with a game of a first type to an array of image sites in a primary game;

determining whether one of a plurality of winning combinations of symbols is present in at least one selected payline across said array and, if so, making an award available for said primary game;

determining whether a triggering event is present in at least one selected payline within said array and, if so, at least providing a player with an option to proceed to a bonus game similar in type to said primary game.